

OCT 08 2008

Amendment to the Claims

- 1.(Currently Amended) A device for supplying snap rings, the device comprising:
- a magazine for containing C-shaped snap rings piled together, each of the snap rings which being held in the magazine such that has a gap the gap is directed forward in a conveying direction;
- a conveying base having a conveying path on a surface thereof, the magazine being provided on the conveying base;
- an extrusion member that pushes out a snap ring occupying a lowest position in the magazine forward in the conveying direction along the conveying path; so that the gap of the snap ring is directed forwardly in an extruding direction;
- an oscillating member that is protractible and retractable with respect to a conveying surface of the conveying path at an area in front of the magazine in the conveying direction, the oscillating member being capable of entering the gap of the snap ring being pushed out so as to direct the gap forward in the conveying direction; and
- a conveying path that conveys the snap ring pushed out by the extrusion member to an area in which the snap ring is contracted to reduce a diameter of the snap ring;
- a projection-strip guide wall that is defined between a pair of concave parts extending in the conveying direction in a termination area of the conveying path of the conveying base, the projection-strip guide wall being formed so as to stand upwardly in a substantially vertical direction, wherein the projection-strip guide wall has a width that permits with which the

projection-strip guide wall to enter the gap of the snap ring, in a termination area of the conveying path; and

— a restricting mechanism that restricts the gap of the snap ring so that the gap is directed in a direction from the magazine to the projection-strip guide wall.

2. (Currently Amended) The device for supplying snap rings as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the oscillating member has an elongated guide part having a width that can enter the gap of the snap ring, the device further comprising:

the restricting mechanism includes:

— an oscillating member having a long guide part, the guide part being protractible and retractable with respect to a conveying surface of the conveying path and having a width that can enter the gap; and

an urging member for urging that urges the oscillating member so that the guide part protrudes from the conveying surface.

3. (Currently Amended) The device for supplying snap rings as set forth in Claim 2, wherein

the oscillating member is attached such that an end part of the long guide part is able to be protractible and retractable with respect to the conveying surface of the conveying path in an area adjacent the projection-strip guide wall in the conveying direction.

the guide part of the oscillating member is formed to enter the gap of the snap ring

~~occupying the lowest position in the magazine in a stand-by state in which the snap ring has not yet been pushed out.~~

4. (Currently Amended) The device for supplying snap rings as set forth in Claim 1, further comprising a cover member provided on the conveying base in the termination area of the conveying path so as to cover the pair of concave parts and the projection-strip guide wall from above, wherein disposed above the projection-strip guide wall,

the cover member has a pair of guide parts formed so as to protrude downwardly at positions whereat the pair of guide parts opposes the pair of concave parts; and each of the pair of guide parts has a contact surface that is curved so that a projection amount thereof increases toward a front in the conveying direction

~~the cover member have a guide part formed to guide the gap of the snap ring downwardly so as to direct the gap of the snap ring conveyed by the extrusion member toward the projection-strip guide wall.~~

5. (Currently Amended) The device for supplying snap rings as set forth in Claim 1, Claim 4, wherein each bottom of the pair of concave parts is formed so as to define an inclined surface that descends toward a front in the conveying direction and is upwardly-convexly curved.

~~the guide part of the cover member consists of a pair of guide parts formed to protrude from a lower surface thereof at positions symmetrical with respect to the projection-strip guide wall.~~

**6-9. (Cancelled)**

10. (New) The device for supplying snap rings as set forth in Claim 2, wherein an end of the oscillating member is pivotally supported on the conveying base below the conveying surface.

11. (New) The device for supplying snap rings as set forth in Claim 1, further comprising a rod and a spring for urging the oscillating member upwardly so that the oscillating member protrudes from the conveying surface.